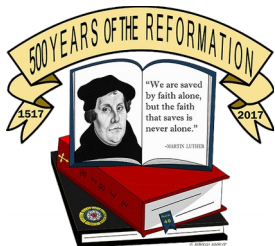




*The church that cares, our roots are strong*

# Tree of Life Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, English District



## Newsletter

*"You have ears; then listen to what the spirit says to the churches. Be victorious, and I will let you eat from the Tree of Life that stands in God's Paradise." Rev. 2:7*

### Worship Services

Sunday - 10:00 am  
Communion Weekly

### Location

Whispering Pines Park  
Recreation Center  
1700 Forest Drive  
Inverness, FL 34453

### Mailing Address

2659 E Gulf-to-Lake Hwy #410  
Inverness, FL 34450  
Phone #352-566-7592  
(leave a message)

### Pastor

Pastor Karl Koch

### President

Ron Hansen

### Vice President

Rich Grable

### Treasurer

Sharon Hansen

### Secretary

Karen Huscher

### Trustees

Rich Grable  
Matthew Manchester

### Elders

Bob Morris  
Ron Fullerton

### Christian Education

Kim Carrol  
Kim Jackson  
Sue Grable

### Bible Class

Sunday - 9am  
Whispering Pines

[www.treeoflifelc.org](http://www.treeoflifelc.org)

## Message from the Pastor

### *The Time--Dimensions of the Reformation by Pastor Koch*

#### The Past:

500 years is a remarkable time for anything to survive and to retain any real importance for humanity. We do not look back over that past dimension in order to reminisce for we were not there in those events. We are among the future generations of 1517 that would benefit. That is reason enough for a celebration. But that early date only assumes importance to this generation through an invasion of that "moment in time" into the moments in which we presently live. That past moment in time is in constant interaction with our present lives and supports why we use the name "Lutheran" to describe our churches.

1517 was a time in which large numbers of Christians began to be freed from the corruptions of the faith which threatened to leave the believers in ignorance about the life-giving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was a beginning of freedom from a church dominated by politics and corruption. It signaled to believers of the nations of Europe that Christ was to be the Lord and Master of His Church. It proclaimed the truth of salvation through the merits of Jesus alone. Nothing was to be added. Nothing was to be said which weakened salvation by Grace through Faith alone. The course of Church history was permanently changed.

#### The Present:

2017 is a time when large numbers of people are no longer in the churches that profess Christ. In our location the many Christian congregations receive credible recognition. They also have an impact on the life of the community. The Gospel of Jesus is proclaimed and available. Acts of mercy, compassion, and gospel-proclamation originate and/or are supported by Christians. One of the fruits of the Reformation has been the development of many new forms of "lay" ministry in all parts of the world. It can be seen in Citrus County, in Houston Texas, and in every continent in the world. It can even be seen in North Korea.

In the past the Church was the recipient of the blessings of the Reformation. Now the Church is the purveyor of the blessings of the Reformation. It is called to do this. It is more frequently a call through individual members and those who gather in support of those with the "special" call. However, the strength of the newer forms of "call to ministry" is found in the impact that it has on the individual congregation. It is a call to individuals exercised through their congregations and faith alliances. There is a rising sense of the need for greater spiritual maturity and faith-contributions by the laity.

#### The Future:

Dare we simply say, GOD, GIVE US ANOTHER 500 YEARS OF REFORMATION. Teach us to know, honor, and use the basic truths that emerged through the teachings of Scripture on salvation by Grace Alone, through Faith alone. Open our hearts to your "call" to proclamation and to service in the name of these truths. Grant us the knowledge that you will act through us, and others, to bring the Reformation event into each successive day and year of the next 500 years. Inspire us To Learn and Live the Legacy of the Reformation. In Jesus Name, Amen.

## Martin Luther ~ Prayer:

“Grant that I may not pray alone with the mouth; help me that I may pray from the depths of my heart.” — *Martin Luther*

“All who call on God in true faith, earnestly from the heart, will certainly be heard, and will receive what they have asked and desired.” — *Martin Luther*

“Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon.” — *Martin Luther*

“Pray, and let God worry.” — *Martin Luther*

“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.” — *Martin Luther*

“God is ready to give more quickly, and to give more than you ask; yea, he offers his treasures if we only take them. It is truly a great shame and a severe chastisement for us Christians that God should still upbraid us for our slothfulness in prayer, and that we fail to let such a rich and excellent promise incite us to pray.” — *Martin Luther*

“Prayer is a very precious medicine, one that helps and never fails.” — *Martin Luther*

“Prayer is not overcoming God’s reluctance. It is laying hold of His willingness.” — *Martin Luther*

“No one can believe how powerful prayer is and what it can effect, except those who have learned it by experience. Whenever I have prayed earnestly, I have been heard and have obtained more than I prayed for. God sometimes delays, but He always comes.” — *Martin Luther*

“God wants us to pray, and he wants to hear our prayers—not because we are worthy, but because he is merciful.” — *Martin Luther, Faith Alone: A Daily Devotional*

“You must learn to call on the Lord. Don’t sit all alone or lie on the couch, shaking your head and letting your thoughts torture you. Don’t worry about how to get out of your situation or brood about your terrible life, how miserable you feel, and what a bad person you are. Instead, say, “Get a grip on yourself, you lazy bum! Fall on your knees, and raise your hands and eyes toward heaven. Read a psalm. Say the Lord’s Prayer, and tearfully tell God what you need.” — *Martin Luther, Faith Alone: A Daily Devotional*

“All teachers of Scripture conclude that the essence of prayer is simply the lifting up of the heart to God. But if this is so, it follows that everything else that doesn’t lift up the heart to God is not prayer. Therefore, singing, talking, and whistling without this lifting up of your heart to God are as much like prayer as scarecrows in the garden are like people. The name and appearance might be there, but the essence is missing.” — *Martin Luther, Faith Alone: A Daily Devotional*

**October 12 2017**



### **Hebrews 13:17 ESV**

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

### **Jeremiah 3:15 ESV**

“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 ESV**

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

### **1 Timothy 5:17 ESV**

Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.

### **2 Timothy 4:2 ESV**

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.



## NOTICES

**NEW RALLY DATE** - Rally Date has been moved to Sunday, October 22nd. Details on the plan for the day will be sent to all who receive the monthly newsletter. Planning will be completed this week. Your possible role(s) in this outreach program will be explained. You may call the church office number or e-mail Pastor Koch ([ka6ko@aol.com](mailto:ka6ko@aol.com)) to inform him about your interests in supporting outreach to children and families.



**THANK YOU** - Our member Joanie Welch needed assistance in removing limbs, branches and general foliage from her property. A team of volunteers came and spent at least two hours to make needed clearing of the property and the piling up of debris for pickup. Thanks and blessings to all who participated.

We are brothers and sisters in the Lord and rejoice whenever we have a chance to serve one another.

**APPRECIATION** - Pastor Koch expresses his appreciation for the concerns of the members about his health. He is just now completing a process of medical review and will have information for you shortly.

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

**2017 - Sunday Services Scheduled at Inverness Women's Club**  
November 12<sup>th</sup>, December 10<sup>th</sup>

Turn in your mite boxes on the last Sunday of every month!

**REMINDER** - Voters' Assembly meeting **November 5th**

Snack List	Prayer Chain Requests	Elder Visits	Lectors
<p>10/1 Sue Fullerton 10/8 Gladys Baker 10/15 Kim Jackson 10/22 Bev Morris 10/29 Ellen Lodgek 11/5 Karen Huscher</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> </div> <p><b>Interested in bringing snacks?</b> Contact Sue Grable 341-0074</p>	<p>A list of those in need of prayer can be found on table at church entryway.</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> </div> <p><i>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1 Timothy 2:1</b></p>	<p>Elders are willing to visit the sick and home bound with prayer. Will also bring the sacrament of Holy Communion to either the hospital or home bound upon request.</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> </div> <p>Contact: Ron Fullerton: 352-344-0905 Bob Morris: 352-628-6452</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lectors</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>October</b> Sue Grable <b>Psalm/Epistle</b> Bruce Thornton <b>Gospel</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>November</b> Karen Huscher <b>Psalm/Epistle</b> Bob Morris <b>Gospel</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>December</b> Ellen Lodgek <b>Psalm/Epistle</b> Rich Grable <b>Gospel</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>January</b> Peggy Kepner <b>Psalm/Epistle</b> Ron Fullerton <b>Gospel</b></p>

Send requests, suggestions for the Newsletter: to [emlodge@yahoo.com](mailto:emlodge@yahoo.com) / Website: [webmaster@treeoffilc.org](http://webmaster@treeoffilc.org)